(b) if so, the details of the sprinkler sets manufacturing firms approved by Government;

(c) whether farmers are being cheated in the supply of inferior quality of sprinkler sets; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Violation of laws on equal wages by Government

1347. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in the Hindu dated the 6th July, 1988 entitled Balatant Violation of law on equal wages by Government; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of the National Commission on Self-Employed Women and women in the Informal Sector which has been referred to in the newspaper article, has been very recently submitted and is under examination of the Goevrnment.

Non-payment of O.T.A./Compensatory Allowances on the Death of Dignitaries to the employees of Delhi Central Electrical Division of C.P.W.D.

1348. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the payment of OTA/Compensatory allowances on the death of Indian and foreign high dignitaries during the period 86-87 declared under the Negotiable Instrument Act as public holidays to the Employees of Delhi Central Electrical Division No. 7 East Block, Rama Krishna Puram, New Delhi have not been paid so far;

(b) if so what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government received any representation in this regard, if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rise in the prices of pulses

1349. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an unprecedented rise in the prices of pulses in the recent past;

(b) whether Government have looked into the causes for such price rise if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being contemplated to effect control/reduction in the price of Pulses to avoid hardshis to the common man?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) The prices of the pulses are largely determined by their demand and supply. Thus the prices of pulses vary from place to place. Due to drought conditions in the country during the last year, prices of pulses are ruling high.

(c) With a view to containing the prices of pulses the following measures have been taken:

(i) Pulses have been put under the Open General Licence (OGL).

(ii) National level Agencies, viz. State Trading Corporation of India (STC) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED)